

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Travis J. Parry
Serial No.: 09/966,896
Filed: September 28, 2001
Docket No.: 10012806-1
Title: EMAIL TO JOB RETENTION

REMARKS

The following Remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed April 18, 2007, in which claims 1-24 were rejected.

With this Amendment, claims 1-9, 15, 18-21, and 24 have been amended to clarify Applicant's invention.

Claims 1-24, therefore, remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, and 5-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jecha et al. US Patent No. 7,120,634 in view of Van Der Linden et al. US Patent No. 7,072,059.

Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jecha et al. US Patent No. 7,120,634 in view of Van Der Linden et al. US Patent No. 7,072,059 and in further view of Maruyama US Patent No. 7,016,057.

With this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the method of sending a print job to a printer includes "attaching at least one document for the print job to an e-mail message," "specifying instructions for printing the at least one document within the e-mail message, the instructions comprising user selected printing attributes for printing the at least one document," "sending the e-mail message with the at least one document attached thereto and the instructions for printing the at least one document specified therein over a network to an e-mail enabled printer, where the e-mail enabled printer includes e-mail client software," and "extracting the at least one document and the instructions for printing the at least one document from the e-mail message by the e-mail enabled printer."

With this Amendment, independent claim 15 has been amended to clarify that the method of distributing a document for printing includes "attaching at a workstation at least one document to an e-mail message," "specifying instructions for printing the at least one document within the e-mail message, the instructions comprising user selected printing attributes for printing the at least one document," "sending the e-mail message with the at least one document attached thereto and the instructions for printing the at

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least one document specified therein to an e-mail enabled print server of a local network," "extracting the at least one document and the instructions for printing the at least one document from the e-mail message at the e-mail enabled print server," and "sending the at least one document and the instructions for printing the at least one document to a network printer of the local network by the e-mail enabled print server."

With this Amendment, independent claim 19 has been amended to clarify that the system for receiving and distributing a remotely sent print job to a network printer includes "**an e-mail enabled print server for communication with a network, the e-mail enabled print server configured for receiving from a remote workstation an e-mail message having a document sent as a print job attached thereto and instructions for printing the document specified therein, the instructions comprising user selected printing attributes for printing the document, and the e-mail enabled print server configured for extracting the document and the instructions from the e-mail message and for transmitting the document and the instructions to at least one network printer.**"

With this Amendment, independent claim 21 has been amended to clarify that the computer system for processing print jobs includes "**an e-mail enabled device for creating and sending an e-mail having an attachment attached thereto and instructions for printing the attachment specified therein, the instructions comprising user selected printing attributes for printing the attachment," and "an e-mail enabled printer incorporating e-mail client software for receiving the e-mail, for extracting the attachment and the instructions for printing the attachment from the e-mail, and for printing the attachment in accordance with the instructions.**"

With this Amendment, independent claim 24 has been amended to clarify that the computer system for processing print jobs includes "**an e-mail enabled device for creating and sending an e-mail having an attachment attached thereto and instructions for printing the attachment specified therein, the instructions comprising user selected printing attributes for printing the attachment," "an e-mail enabled print server for receiving said e-mail, for extracting said attachment and said instructions for printing said attachment from said e-mail, and for sending said attachment and said instructions for printing said attachment for printing," and "a network printer for receiving said**

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attachment and said instructions for printing said attachment from said e-mail enabled print server, and for printing said attachment in accordance with said instructions."

Independent claims 1, 15, 19, 21, and 24, therefore, each include an e-mail or e-mail message having a document or attachment attached thereto and instructions for printing the document or attachment specified therein, wherein the instructions comprise user selected printing attributes for printing the document or attachment, and wherein the document or attachment and the instructions for printing the document or attachment are extracted from the e-mail or e-mail message.

With respect to the Jecha, Van Der Linden, and Maruyama references, Applicant submits that these references, individually or in combination, do not disclose a method of sending a print job to a printer as claimed in independent claim 1, do not disclose a method of distributing a document for printing as claimed in independent claim 15, do not disclose a system for receiving and distributing a remotely sent print job to a network printer as claimed in independent claim 19, do not disclose a computer system for processing print jobs as claimed in independent claim 21, and do not disclose a computer system for processing print jobs as claimed in independent claim 24.

For example, the Van Der Linden reference discloses a method for submitting jobs to a reproduction center including electronically transmitting document data representing documents to be printed from a client to the reproduction center, wherein a submission form description indicating print options currently available at the reproduction center is created on behalf of the reproduction center and sent to the client (see Abstract). More specifically, the job submission procedure of the Van Der Linden reference provides that:

When a printer language document 18 (e.g. Postscript document) sent by a client is received by the FTP server 44, this document is stored in a watched document directory 48. A document conversion module 50 converts this document into another format which is more suitable for processing in the reproduction center, including displaying as a softproof. In the example shown, this format is the PDF format. The PDF document thus obtained is stored in a temporary document store 52....Concurrently therewith, a submission form description 57 is sent by an Active Server Page 56 via the HTTP server 46 to the client (emphasis added) (col. 8, lines 38-50).

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Thus, with the job submission procedure of the Van Der Linden reference, when the end user submits a print job to the reproduction center, the Van Der Linden reference provides that:

...the reproduction center sends back a piece of program code which is written for example in HTML (Hypertext Markup Language). This piece of program code, which is called a submission form description, is interpreted by the telecommunications software (e.g. web browser). As a result, a corresponding submission form 24 is displayed on the monitor screen of the client computer (emphasis added) (col. 7, lines 5-11).

Accordingly, the job submission procedure of the Van Der Linden reference provides that:

When the client has filled-in the submission form 28 [sic], automatically generated from the submission form description, and clicks on the submit button, the information entered in the submission form, the job ticket data, is uploaded to the server and stored, for instance as a database record, in the job ticket store (col. 9, lines 1-6).

As an advantage of this job submission procedure, the Van Der Linden reference provides that:

If the hardware configuration, and hence the functionality available in the reproduction center, changes then these changes will be reflected by corresponding changes of the print options presented in the submission form description. Since this [submission form] description is created on the side of the reproduction center and is transmitted to the client on demand, the client will always be aware of the currently available options, and it is not necessary to reconfigure the software installed on the computer of the client. Thus, a high degree of flexibility is achieved (emphasis added) (col. 2, lines 56-65).

The Van Der Linden reference, therefore, discloses that the submission form, as generated from the submission form description, is sent separately to the client after the document has been sent to the reproduction center. The Van Der Linden reference, however, does not disclose sending the document and the submission form to the reproduction center together, respectively, as an attachment to an e-mail or e-mail message and specified within the e-mail or e-mail message.

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Rather, by creating the submission form description at the reproduction center and sending or transmitting the submission form description to the client from the reproduction center after the document has been sent to the reproduction center, the Van Der Linden reference actually teaches away from sending the document and the submission form to the reproduction center together, respectively, as an attachment to an e-mail or e-mail message and specified within the e-mail or e-mail message. Accordingly, the Van Der Linden reference does not disclose an e-mail or e-mail message having a document or attachment attached thereto and instructions for printing the document or attachment specified therein, wherein the instructions comprise user selected printing attributes for printing the document or attachment, and wherein the document or attachment and the instructions for printing the document or attachment are extracted from the e-mail or e-mail message, as claimed in independent claims 1, 15, 19, 21, and 24.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 15, 19, 21, and 24, and the dependent claims depending therefrom, are each patentably distinct from the Jecha, Van Der Linden, and Maruyama references and, therefore, are each in a condition for allowance. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1, 2, and 5-24 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), and claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that claims 1-24 be allowed.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-24 are all in a condition for allowance and requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of all pending claims.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Nathan R. Rieth at Telephone No. (208) 396-5287, Facsimile No. (208) 396-3958 or Scott A. Lund at Telephone No. (612) 573-2006, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

IP Administration
Legal Department, M/S 35
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

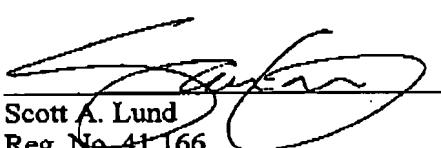
Respectfully submitted,

Travis J. Parry,

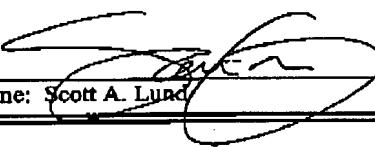
By,

DICKE, BILLIG & CZAJA, PLLC
Fifth Street Towers, Suite 2250
100 South Fifth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Telephone: (612) 573-2006
Facsimile: (612) 573-2005

Date: July 18, 2007
SAL:bsf


Scott A. Lund
Reg. No. 41,166

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By _____
Name: Scott A. Lund